

^{sat.} Egypt and Poison Gas • By Roscoe Drummond

U.N. Should Probe Use in Yemen

THERE IS MOUNTING and objective proof that Egypt is using poison gas against the Arab rebels in its intervention in the civil war in Yemen and was equipped to do so against Israel.

This heinous crime so far has not seemed to outrage the conscience of mankind perhaps because it was perpetrated in obscure places and little publicized. It has not yet attracted the interest of the United Nations.

The evidence that poison gas has been used by the United Arab Republic against villages in Yemen is persuasive bordering on the conclusive. It raises the most ominous international questions:

Where is President Nasser getting his poison gas?

Can Egypt itself produce poison gas in quantity for military use?

If not, is it being made available to the U.A.R. from outside?

Is the Soviet Union providing Egypt with poison gas and thus condoning its use?

Is Red China, which has been assuring the Arabs they could have anything and everything Peking has

to prosecute their wars, meeting part of its promises with poison gas?

At this stage we cannot be sure of the answers to any of these questions, but they deserve to be asked in view of the fact that deaths from poison gas have been verified after raids by Egyptian planes.



Drummond

THE PROOF is this:

Two doctor-members of the International Committee of the Red Cross Medical Mission went to the village of Gabor in North Yemen following an appeal for assistance from inhabitants who claimed that their villages had been under gas attack from airplanes on the morning of May 10, 1967.

The doctors examined four surviving victims and a corpse four days after death. They submitted a formal, written report to the International Red Cross and in it gave the testimony of witnesses who said that 75 persons died of poison gas shortly after the Egyptian raid. The two Red Cross physicians, Dr. Raymond Janin and Dr. Willy Brutschin, confirmed this testimony in these words:

"The statements made by witnesses who escaped from the raid unharmed in respect of the circumstances in which 75 inhabitants were killed are consistent with the International Red Cross Medical Mission's own findings by examination of the

four survivors and the corpse exhumed from one of the common graves."

THE ENGLISH text of this report was published for the first time in the U.S. News and World Report. Its findings were confirmed by the medical report from the University of Bern Institute of Forensic Medicine.

There are additional facts.

A few days ago The Washington Post published the following from Aden: "Forty-five persons were killed by poison gas and bombs dropped on a Yemeni village by Egyptian planes, British intelligence sources here reported. They said the attack on the Royalist-held village of Ban Sham took place on June 2."

The Israeli government has announced that following its overrun of Egyptian forces "gas containers were found in the Sinai."

It seems to me that evidence that Egypt has been employing poison gas is sufficiently strong that it can no longer be ignored by the United Nations or by the conscience of concerned people.

If the United Nations can help bring about a truce in the war between Egypt and Israel, isn't it possible that it could bring about a halt of Nasser's use of poison gas against other Arabs in Yemen? And some effort should be made to determine what country is the source of supply.